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Title: Need to remove the 'bull' from the list of protected animals to enable people in Tamil Nadu to organize traditional game 'Jallikattu' without any restrictions.

SHRI MANICKA TAGORE (VIRUDHUNAGAR): Jallikattu is a traditional game played during Pongal festival in almost all the villages particularly in Southern Districts of Tamil Nadu i.e in Madurai, Pudukkottai, Theni, Thanjavur, Salem, Sivagangai. It is a bull-baiting or bull fighting game played in ancient days and watched by unmarried girls to choose their husbands and successful matadors were chosen as grooms. To participate in the Jallikattu, special breed cattles/bulls are used and the majority of Jallikattu bulls belong to the pulikulam breed of cattle. The calves that are chosen to become jallikattu bulls are fed a nutritious diet to become so strong, sturdy beasts and bulls are made to swim for exercise, the bull's horns are sharpened and no other training is provided to jallikattu bulls.

There are three different types of jallikattu. In all these the matador cannot use any weapon and no bull harm in any way. Even if any bull is harmed/wounded, a medical assistance will be provided in all the event places.

Recently, the Animai Welfare Board has filed a case in the Supreme Court to ban the Jallikattu as it hurts and harms the bulls, as the Environment and Forest Ministry has included the Bulls in the list of protected animals along with lion, tiger, bear etc. without any valid reason. So, the people of Tamilnadu were very displeÃ sed by banning the game. A committee has been formed to fight the case as it sentimentally affects the cultural, reiigious and village festival. So the Committee and Government of Tamilnadu has appealed to the Supreme Court and the court also permitted to allow jallikattu for five months in a year from January15.

the Environment and Forest Ministry to remove the 'bull' from the list of protected animals so that JallkattJallikattu is played since the ancient period and no bull has been harmed, Hence, I urge uponu can be played in all the villages of the State without any restrictions.